

# SRRTTF – TSCA Workgroup Sponsored Stakeholder Workshop

## Inadvertently Produced PCBs in Pigments – Sustainable Solutions

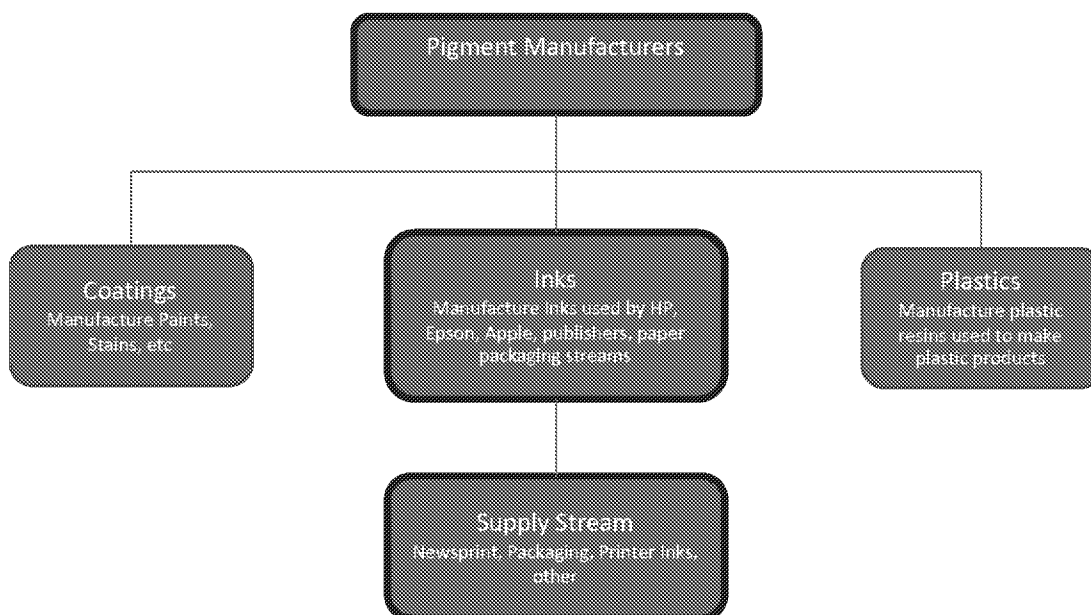
### Workshop Proposal

The TSCA Workgroup of the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force (SRRTTF) is exploring measures to reduce inadvertent PCBs in products in their efforts to keep PCBs from entering the Spokane River. As part of this effort, the workgroup proposes to host a multi-stakeholder workshop to address inadvertent PCBs in pigments and the downstream products that are manufactured using those pigments. The workshop would explore non-regulatory reduction strategies with a focus on innovation. The supply stream for pigment-containing PCBs is outlined in red in Figure 1.

### Workshop Goal

The goal of the workshop is to reduce inadvertent PCBs in pigments and inks that have the potential for entering the Spokane River.

**FIGURE 1:** Supply Streams for Pigments Containing Inadvertent PCBs



The objectives of the workshop are to bring all interested parties together to brainstorm solutions to:

- Reduce the level of inadvertent PCBs in these products
- Identify best practices and existing alternatives
- Identify barriers and constraints to alternatives
- Develop relationships and encourage innovative partnerships
- Determine voluntary measures to implementation

Stakeholders include representatives from across the entire supply chain:

- Pigment and ink manufacturers,
- Businesses and industries that utilize those pigments and inks
- Downstream suppliers of packaging and inks
- Industry organizations (eg., Color Pigments Manufacturers Association (CPMA), NAPIM, Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC), American Chemistry Council (ACC))
- Researchers developing new technologies
- Recyclers
- Government procurement experts and regulators.

These stakeholders will gather to share information and discuss and develop potential solutions. Solutions may include identification of ink alternatives, purchasing policies, identifying industry incentives to sustainable practices, and more.

The workshop is to be held in Spokane for the benefit of SRRTTF members and the primary focus will be on Washington State. A planning committee will be formed to provide further definition to these preliminary concepts.

#### Co-Sponsorship

There has been some consideration given to co-sponsoring this workshop with the Department of Ecology (Ecology) as part of the establishment of a new working group by Ecology. Ecology's proposed 'PCBs in Products Workgroup' will include representatives from industry, manufacturers, state agencies, institutional purchasers, local governments, tribes, nongovernmental organizations, other states and the U.S. EPA. The intent of the PCBs in Products Workgroup is to work together to conduct a pre-competitive technology feasibility assessment to better understand opportunities and challenges, technical issues, and drivers or limitations and set measurable goals to reduce PCB levels in colorants in pigments and inks used in paper products. Discussions between Ecology and the TSCA workgroup of the SRRTTF regarding co-sponsorship are ongoing. There may be an opportunity to co-host a workshop has part of the Fall 2019 ECOS meeting and MOU signing for the Ecology workgroup.

#### Scope and Budget

A small planning committee from the TSCA workgroup will convene to develop scope and budget for this workshop. Co-sponsorship with Ecology would allow for cost sharing with the SRRTTF. The cost sharing may involve funding assistance or in-kind contributions of Ecology staff time for event planning. Other stakeholders could also be considered as co-sponsor to leverage funding options.